



# STATE OF IDAHO

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND WELFARE

*Hold for Wally*

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENT  
Statehouse  
Boise, Idaho 83720

December 10, 1987

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sylvia Kawabata, EPA-Seattle

FROM: Jerry Yoder, IDHW- DOE

SUBJECT: Draft NPDES Permit for: Cyprus Thompson Creek,  
ID-002540-2

Enclosed are the Pocatello Field Office comments on the above referenced draft NPDES permit. Also enclosed for your information are copies of the laboratory results on samples collected near the tailings area. The Central Office has no further comments.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry", written over a horizontal line.

copy: Larry Koenig  
Gordon Hopson/Walt Poole  
Wally Scarburgh ✓

RECEIVED  
DEC 14 1987

IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE



# STATE OF IDAHO

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND WELFARE

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENT  
150 N. 3rd Avenue (basement)  
Pocatello, Idaho 83201

December 9, 1987

MEMO TO: Jerry Yoder  
FROM: Walt Poole  
RE: Cyprus NPDES permit

The proposed permit for Cyprus ID 002540-2 appears to be adequate for discharge points 1 and 2 into Thompson Creek. However, recent sampling in the Bruno Creek drainage indicate the possibility of metals entering the surface water below the tailings dam. Samples #1 and #2 are within the pumpback system and at this time are being recycled with tailings. However, #3 sample is in excess of the daily maximum (proposed in Table 7 for Thompson Creek) for zinc and is entering surface water above the discharge point into Squaw Creek. I have made two recommendations to Cyprus:

1. They begin consideration of metals treatment below tailings.
2. They institute a monthly sampling program for metals at discharge point #3 and Twin Apex Creek upstream of discharge on Bruno Creek.

I would recommend that metals concentrations as a limiting factor also be included in the NPDES permit for discharge point #3.

WP/jr